

## AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An electronic device capable of counting down to a next integral time point, comprising:

an input unit for operating the electronic device;

an integral time point selector with an hour, a half-hour, and a quarter-hour countdown time points for setting an the next integral time point with respect to a current time, wherein selection of one of the hour, half-hour, and quarter-hour countdown time points of the selector causes the electronic device counts to count down to the next said integral time point hour, half-hour, or quarter-hour depending on which of the countdown time points is selected;

a timer for recording ~~a~~the current time;

a synchronous calculating unit for reading the integral time point from the integral time point selector and reading the current time from the timer to determine the time interval from the current time to the next integral time point for use as the counting down time period; and

a counter for performing a counting down operation based on the counting down time period from the synchronous calculating unit; and

an output unit for displaying the current time of the electronic device and a remaining time to perform a counting down operation, and for indicating an end of counting down.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Canceled)

5. (Original) The electronic device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the integral time point is settable in the integral time point selector.

Serial Number 09/956,887

6. (Original) The electronic device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the counter reads the counting down time period from the synchronous calculating unit to start to count down and generate a message for notifying the user at the end of counting.

7. (Original) The electronic device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the message is a voice from an electronic buzzer.

8. (Previously Presented) The electronic device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the message is a flashing light.

9. (Previously Presented) The electronic device as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a quartz oscillator for providing a basic synchronous clock signal to the timer and the counter.

10. (Currently Amended) The electronic device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the integral time point selector includes a buffer connected to the countdown time points for buffering the set integral time points, which are used to set at least an hour countdown, a half hour countdown, and an quarter hour countdown.